regards the other request, the Government have already issued instructions to the effect that the salaries of District Board Elementary School teachers for each month should be paid as early as possible, and in any case, not later than the 15th of the succeeding month."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" The Hon. Minister for Finance replied that financial conditions do not permit an increase in the pay of the teachers. May I know when the financial conditions will improve so that these teachers can expect a reasonable pay and lead a better life? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" As soon as we work hard and produce more."

Closing of the lock on Canolly canal at Pooraparamba, South Malabar.

* 227 Q.—SRI K. M. SEETHI SAHIB : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether serious damage to the crops of ryots is caused by the closing of the Pooraparamba lock in the Tirurangadi Revenue Firka in South Malabar during the rainy reason; and

(*b*) what steps the Government propose to take to regulate the closing of the said lock?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) About 400 to 500 acres of paddy fields in the villages of Trikolam, Mannambra and Tirurangadi were submerged due to the closing of the lock on Canolly canal at Pooraparamba. The lock has to be closed during the rainy season to save the embankment.

" (*b*) A permanent solution to the problem is under consideration and there is also a proposal to construct another pucca lock lower down the existing lock."

SRI K. M. SEETHI SAHIB :—" May I know whether representations have been received by the Government about the desirability of using electricity which is passing within one mile of this locality for the purpose of working this lock so as to avoid delay and the influx of salt water which is causing destruction to the crops as such? If so, will the Government consider them very sympathetically? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The object of closing the lock is to prevent the influx of salt water. As regards the suggestion, whether electric power could be utilized to advantage there, I shall have the matter examined."